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Review of *Parasites and the Behaviour of Animals* by Janice Moore (Oxford University Press, 2002)

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seldom recognized adequately for their efforts. If a field does not develop rapidly, does not become trendy, no one pays much attention to the efforts. If a field does become trendy, few remember or acknowledge, in the flush of excitement and the competition for professional fitness in a hot area, the pioneers who made it all happen in the first place.

Fortunately for the progress of science, people like Moore are not deterred by these unpleasant realities. In this book, Moore has managed to capture the spirit

of why she does what she does, the magic of discovery in a virtually unknown world. She conveys to the novice (that is, anyone not fortunate enough to have spent much time looking at parasites) the wonder of the tangled bank of host-parasite interactions that may have behavioral consequences. She does so through a sequence of examples illustrating each conceptual point. All of this is done in a comfortable, conversational writing style and with a perfect mix of illustrations that does not in any way de-

SURVEYING THE REALM

Parasites and the Behaviour of Animals. Janice Moore. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK. 2002. 315 pp., illus. \$45.00 (ISBN 0195084411 paper).

More than any other living biologist, and likely more than any biologist in history, Janice Moore has devoted her professional life to discovering, documenting, and explaining the behavioral consequences of host-parasite interactions. As in numerous other areas in evolutionary biology and ecology, theories and models about such effects have developed far more rapidly than the empirical database. As a parasitologist, Moore understands why this is so and, characteristically, says so.

Parasites have extremely complex lives, and they can be found in a wide variety of taxa, each of which is characterized by a unique and complex evolutionary legacy. In addition, the great majority of the research funds spent on parasites throughout the world is focused on a tiny percentage of parasitic species. What Moore does not say is that the intersection of these two realities, one biological and one socioeconomic, means that only a few intrepid souls with an iron will and almost obsessive desire to peer into the unknown will be able to manage the long march of discovery. People like Moore are

tract from the scholarly nature of the text. Moore is not only very good at what she does, she is also very good at explaining it. The only boring thing about this book is its title, and I imagine that was not her first choice. That notwithstanding, this book is going to inspire students to take up the challenge in the next generation. And, as Moore points out, this kind of study is a challenge, demanding that a researcher be part field biologist/naturalist, part laboratory experimentalist, and part modeler.

Researchers like Moore are professionally fearless, or they would not be pioneers. In this book, Moore puts all the evidence on the table, not just that which fits a particular viewpoint. There is a 60-page annotated appendix of published studies documenting intriguing associations between parasites and host behaviors, and a 69-page bibliography attesting to the depth of her scholarship and love of discovery. She puts forward her views, discusses alternatives, and, when warranted, freely admits that we do not yet know enough to make a strong decision.

In the final chapter, she does not claim to have found any first principles, or even that such exist. In fact, she acknowledges that what little we know may have built-in biases, which casts doubt on the notion that we will discover statistically significant generalizations about the ways in which parasites influence host behaviors. She does claim, however, to have shown that the relatively few studies of behavior in the context of host–parasite relationships have provided extraordinary glimpses of a virtually untapped goldmine for evolutionary biologists, ethologists, and ecologists. And she is absolutely right. After all, when we get past the theories, past the models, past the meta-analyses, past the biases in funding of such research, we will always be left with those orange-colored cystacanths, those pulsating sporocysts, and those insane ants.

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